

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 187005
ORIGIN AF-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 187005

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS STATE 187005

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JULY 24, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL
VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

Q: YOU COMMENTED LAST WEEK ON THE HELMS AMENDMENT WHICH
WOULD LIFT THE RHODESIAN SANCTIONS FOR A PERIOD. DO YOU
HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE PROJECTED AMENDMENT OF SENATOR CASE
AND SENATOR JAVITZ IN THE SAME GENERAL AREA?

A: YES. I UNDERSTAND THAT WE HAVE, OF COURSE, MADE OUR
POSITION ON THE HELMS AMENDMENT VERY CLEAR.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 187005

I AM NOT IN ANY POSITION TO COMMENT SPECIFICALLY ON THIS
PARTICULAR ALTERNATIVE BEING CIRCULATED BY SENATORS CASE,
JAVITZ AND MOYNIHAN, OR ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVES THAT MAY
BE PROPOSED IN THE COMING DAYS.

THAT IS THE GIST OF WHAT I HAVE TO SAY. THERE ARE VARIOUS
GOOD REASONS FOR IT, INCLUDING THEY MAY BE COMING PRETTY
FAST AND QUICK.

Q: THIS AMENDMENT IN THE FORM IN WHICH IT WAS CIRCULATED
MAKES NO REFERENCE WHATEVER TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. WOULD
IT THEREFORE MEET OUR REQUIREMENT THAT THE ALL PARTIES
CONFERENCE MUST INCLUDE BOTH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND
THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT?

A: I AM NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY COMMENT SPECIFICALLY ON
THAT.

Q: ON A RELATED SUBJECT, WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP NOW ON
NAMIBIA?

A: I THINK THE EXACT TIMING OF WHAT ;APPENS, AND THE

FOCUS HAS TO BE NEW YORK AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL, IS

STILL BEING DISCUSSED. I DON'T HAVE A TIME FRAME OR
EVEN A SCENARIO FOR IT.

I WOULD SAY, HOWEVER, THAT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A MATTER OF
DAYS AND WEEKS, RATHER THAN WEEKS AND MONTHS, I MEAN AS TO
WHEN IT MIGHT HAPPEN.

Q: IS THAT WHEN THE SECURITY COUNCIL MIGHT MEET ON IT?

A: YES, AND WHEN WE MIGHT PUT IT FORWARD FORMALLY FOR
ACTION.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 187005

Q: ELECTIONS?

A: RESOLUTION.

Q: HODDING, I UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF THE REASONS FOR OUR
POSITION ON THE RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT IS THAT WE ARE
CONCERNED ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

IS THERE A HEAD-COUNT ON HOW MANY ODD AFRICAN COUNTRIES
THERE ARE NOW THAT SUPPORT THIS HARDLINE POSITION WE ARE
INSISTING ON AGREEMENT WITH THE SO-CALLED PATRIOTIC FRONT?

A: YOU MEAN, WHO COMES DOWN SAYING LET'S RECOGNIZE THE
INTERNAL GROUP; OTHERS SAYING YOU CAN'T RECOGNIZE THIS
ONE OR THAT ONE.

Q: I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE ONLY SEVEN HARD-LINE
COUNTRIES, AFRICAN COUNTRIES THAT ARE TAKING THIS HARD-
LINE STANCE OUT OF A TOTAL OF WHAT -- 40 OR 50?

A: I WILL SEE IF I CAN GET AN ANSWER ON THAT.
VANCE

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